

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action mailed October 9, 2007, claims 1 – 5 and 11 – 16 are pending. Claims 1 – 5 and 16 are rejected and claims 11 – 15 are withdrawn from consideration. In response, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 4 and canceled claims 11 – 16. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application in view of the amended claims and the below-provided remarks.

For reference, claim 16 has been canceled and therefore the objection to claim 16 is moot. Claim 4 has been amended to correspond to the language of claim 1.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1 – 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kocher et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,289,455, hereinafter Kocher).

Claim 1

Claim 1 has been amended to refer to the “*non-volatile* memory module” as first presented in line 2 of claim 1. Claim 1 has also been amended to recite “decrypting address data coming from a central processing unit (CPU).” Support for the later amendment is found in Applicant’s specification at, for example, paragraphs [0041] and [0042]. Applicant respectfully asserts that the later amendment to claim 1 correlates to the disclosure and addresses the objection raised in the current Office action. As amended, claim 1 recites:

“A circuit arrangement for electronic data processing comprising:
 at least one non-volatile memory module for storing encrypted data to be protected against unauthorized access;
 at least one memory module interface logic circuit in electronic communication with the non-volatile memory module; said at least one memory module interface circuit being for addressing the non-volatile memory module,

for writing the data to the non-volatile memory module, or for reading out the data from the non-volatile memory module;

at least one code Read Only Memory (ROM) module for storing and/or supplying at least one ROM code; and

at least one code ROM module interface logic circuit in electronic communication with the code ROM module for addressing the code ROM module and for reading out the ROM code from the code ROM module,

wherein the at least *one ROM code stored in the code ROM module is used to generate at least one key code for encrypting or decrypting data* being written to the non-volatile memory module or data being read from the non-volatile memory module, said at least one ROM code further being used for decrypting address data coming from a central processing unit (CPU).”
(emphasis added)

According to claim 1, ROM code stored in a ROM module is used to generate a key code for encrypting or decrypting data being written to or read from the non-volatile memory module. As described in Applicant’s disclosure, generating an encryption/decryption key from a ROM code allows for an especially long encryption/decryption key to be generated without requiring additional surface area in a storage module to store the especially long encryption/decryption key, see, for example, paragraphs [0016], [0017], and [0023] of Applicant’s specification. Applicant asserts that Kocher does not disclose “at least *one ROM code stored in the code ROM module is used to generate at least one key code for encrypting or decrypting data* being written to the non-volatile memory module or data being read from the non-volatile memory module” as recited in amended claim 1.

Kocher discloses that fixed data and “code” are stored in ROM (245), see col. 9, lines 33 – 34. Kocher also discloses that encryption/decryption keys can be stored in ROM and used by the CryptoFirewall, see col. 10, lines 36 – 47. However, Kocher does not disclose that code stored in ROM is “used to generate at least one key code for encrypting or decrypting data” as recited in claim 1. That is, while Kocher discloses storing “code” in ROM and storing encryption/decryption keys in ROM, Kocher does not disclose generating encryption/decryption keys from code that is stored in ROM. Because Kocher does not disclose that code stored in

ROM is “used to generate at least one key code for encrypting or decrypting data” as recited in claim 1, Applicant asserts that claim 1 is not anticipated by Kocher.

Claims 2 – 5

Claims 2 – 5 are dependent on claim 1. Applicant asserts that claims 2 – 5 are allowable at least based on an allowable claim 1.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments and remarks made herein. A notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any over payment to Deposit Account **50-3444** pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.25. Additionally, please charge any fees to Deposit Account **50-3444** under 37 C.F.R. 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21.

Respectfully submitted,

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